

VIKING FLYER



934th Airlift Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Air Reserve Station, Minn.

Employer's Day

Reservists invite civilian
bosses to check out
Reserve mission

► Page 7

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On the cover

Tech. Sgt. Richard Rogozinski, 934th Maintenance Squadron, invited his civilian boss, **Patrick Boylan,** Northwest Airlines, to the annual Employer's Day last month. For more on the event and employer relations, see Page 6-7.



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

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UTA schedule

July 10-11 • UTA entrees:
Aug. 7-8 Saturday, **chicken**
Sept. 11-12 **fillet or baked fish;**
Sunday, **pork chow**
mein or roast beef.

(Next fiscal year's schedule not finalized) • UTA pay date:
June 15.

934th Airlift Wing on the Internet:
<http://www.afrc.af.mil/934aw/default.htm>

Commentary

Personal responsibility

Exercise reveals readiness data needs updates

Col. Richard Moss
Wing Commander

Last month, we had a wing mobility exercise. I greatly appreciate the hard work everyone put into preparing for it. (See story, Page 9.)

Overall, the objectives of the exercise were met. We have some areas that still need work but that is what exercises are for — to identify our strengths and weaknesses.

One of the major responsibilities we, as members of the Air Force Reserve, have is to ensure we are ready to deploy whenever we are needed. The exercise pointed out one area I need your help to improve. It is one that is more of a personal responsibility, not a system weakness. We had an excessive amount of discrepancies in the personnel processing line — especially in light of the current world situation.

An excessive number of the people processed had discrepancies relating to either requiring shots,

needing dog tags or updating their emergency data paperwork, Form 93. These are items necessary to ensure you — and your families, in the case of the Form 93 — are adequately protected in the event of deployment.

With the increased reliance on the Reserve component to augment active-duty forces on virtually a day-to-day basis, we must each put forth the extra effort to correct these discrepancies. Thanks in advance for your assistance.

Finally, this is the time of year commonly referred to as the "101 Critical Days." As we enjoy the many wonderful outdoor activities offered in Minnesota, please ensure you and your family think and practice safety in everything you do. □



Moss

'101 Critical Days'

Season of high safety concerns begins Memorial Day

Gen. Dick Hawley
Commander, Air Combat Command

Every year, America honors those who gave their lives so that we can live in freedom.

People across our great nation will bow their heads in thanks to our fallen heroes. This is the time we remember their valor in time of conflict and their voice in the time of decision. They secured the privileges of our constitutional foundations and liberties. The price they paid was high.

Memorial Day also marks the beginning of summer. Many of us are making vacation plans and going on outings with families and friends. During the planning of these activities, I

encourage each of you to give some extra thought to managing the risks associated with our summertime activities. Your diligence is critical to saving lives and preventing injuries.

Our people continue to experience high operations tempo as we fight to preserve freedom around the globe. This high OPTEMPO increases the chances of summertime accidents, both on and off duty.

During this year's "101 Critical Days of Summer," May 31-Sept. 6, let's make operational risk management a top priority. Each of you makes important contributions to mission success. We cannot afford to lose any of you if we are to continue to be effective guardians of America's freedoms. □

Reserve

Reservists mobilized in presidential recall

Nearly a thousand Air Force reservists from four KC-135 air refueling units are going on active duty under the Presidential Selected Reserve Call-up, April 27.

The initial call-up identified 871 reservists and 15 KC-135 aircraft, along with Air National Guard members. No 934th Airlift Wing members were called up; however, four volunteers from the 27th Aerial Port Squadron left for Germany in April to serve on the crisis action team there.

Reservists and aircraft from the following units are mobilizing:

- 434th Air Refueling Wing, Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., 498 reservists and seven aircraft;
- 927th ARW, Selfridge ANG Base, Mich., 59 reservists;
- 931st Air Refueling Group, McConnell Air Force Base, Kan., 64 reservists; and
- 940th ARW, Beale AFB, Calif., 250 reservists and eight aircraft. (AFRC News Service)

Local

Base briefs ...

• **The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds'** June 5-6 performance at the Mankato, Minn., air show will be based out of the 934th Airlift Wing airfield. A reception will be held in one of the aircraft hangars on Saturday, June 5, at 4:30 p.m., and wing members and their families are invited to attend. However, the aircraft will be cordoned off on the flightline and cannot be toured.

• **Military Expo '99** is set for July 31-Aug. 1, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. on Saturday and 11 a.m.-6 p.m. on Sunday. The wing will host static display aircraft and other activities.

③For more information, call **Mark Davidson**, public affairs, Ext. 1217.

• **It's Metro Paint-A-Thon** time, and the wing needs volunteers to paint a nearby home in early August.

③For details, call **Master Sgt. David Hammer**, Ext. 1240, or **Master Sgt. David Cormier**, Ext. 1354.

• **A wing "Combat Dining Out"** is being planned for Saturday, Aug. 7, catered in one of the aircraft hangars. More information should be available in the next *Viking Flyer*. □

Great team for America

Maj. Gen. James Sherrard
Commander, Air Force Reserve Command

For the second time this decade, our nation is sending hundreds of Air Force reservists overseas to support a multinational response to aggression. This is our job, what we train for.



Sherrard

To succeed in this mission, deploying reservists need a unique kind of support not found among the supplies and repair parts needed to accomplish their daily mission taskings. They need our support here at home — yours and mine! Our support and that of their fellow reservists, families and employers will reassure them that we stand behind them throughout this crisis.

Any of the 23,500 reservists called up for Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm know first-hand of the

Reservists, families, civilian employers provide united force

burden mobilization places on a reservist and his or her family and employer. Reservists assigned after Desert Storm are new to the mobilization business and can expect to see some challenges from several fronts. As a team, we can meet these challenges and provide support and assistance to ensure successful mission accomplishment.

Wisely, we learned from the past. As a result, today we have several family readiness initiatives in place to help reservists and their families cope with separation. Arguably, the greatest burden may rest on those who stay behind. They are the ones who are left to worry and to deal with the problems and frustrations of running a household alone. They valiantly serve in their own way and deserve our continuing support, assistance and, most importantly, our thanks.

Employers directly support our

combat readiness as well. They supported us in an outstanding manner during the Gulf War and continue to do so today. They have earned our sincere appreciation and respect.

I have total confidence in the skills and dedication of our men and women and what they bring to the total Air Force. The strength of our active duty, Air Force Reserve command, Air National Guard and Department of Defense civilian personnel will allow us to meet all assignments with the full understanding and expectation of success.

I join Acting Secretary of the Air Force **Whit Peters** and Air Force Chief of Staff **Gen. Michael Ryan** in expressing my gratitude to everyone in Air Force Reserve Command for their dedication to service and devotion to duty. Our Air Force truly is the best Air Force in the world because of the fantastic abilities of our assigned personnel, the dedication and commitment of their families and the unwavering support of their employers — a great team for America. (AFRC News Service) □

Compliance assessments

Team inspects wing environmental, occupational health programs

Cherie Huntington
Public Affairs

The wing underwent its first combined inspection of environmental and occupational health areas, April 26-30.

A 12-person team representing the Headquarters Air Force Reserve Command, National Guard Bureau and contractors conducted the visit, commonly called an ECAMP, Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program, held every two years.

This year, a new Reserve inspection portion was added for occupational health, called the OHCAMP.

Doug Yocum, wing ECAMP manager, noted significant changes this year. "Everyone on the team was new and had never been here before," he said. "So we expected them to identify things that teams in the past might have not have noticed."

Yocum said there was also no

allowance for on-the-spot corrections, meaning small discrepancies earned write-ups even when they were instantly fixed.

The team inspected the tenant Air National Guard wing as well, and both units generally equaled in number of write-ups and positive findings. The highest number of hits for both wings fell in the area of hazardous material management.

Yocum said most problems involved handling and storage of items such as paints and solvents; petroleum and oil-based products; and compressed gases, such as nitrogen and hand-held propane cylinders.

For the 934th, the area receiving the next-highest number of write-ups was the air emissions area. This required more attention and better record keeping, involving emissions from specialized equipment such as abrasive blasting cabinets used for removing paint from aircraft parts.

On the positive side, four 934th areas were lauded: operation of the base fuel area, pest management plan,

hazardous waste file management and the Team Safe Program, a local communications-boosting effort involving environmental, occupational health and safety representatives.

"Quite a few findings are closed already," said Yocum. "We're working on our management action plan, identifying root causes and listing specific actions to correct each finding."

Progress is going well on OHCAMP findings as well, said **Tom Crable**, chief of the bioenvironmental/public health division. "They nicked us but didn't hit any major programs," he said. "Several findings are closed already, and within one or two months, all of them should be closed."

Prior to the OHCAMP visit, Crable's programs were inspected every three years during wing effectiveness inspections.

Yocum said the team's assessment doesn't result in a score or a pass/fail indicator, only in findings requiring quarterly progress reports until resolved. □

Viking Victors:

Janie Medina

Honor: Air Force Reserve Command Transportation Civil Servant of the Year 1998; and 22nd Air Force Civil Servant of the Year 1998.

Unit/position: 934th Logistics Group, transportation specialist.

Job responsibilities: Combat readiness, instructing on transporting hazardous material handling and military air shipment, and also increment manager's training. Load planning during mobility. As of March 15, assigned to the traffic management office, learning the ins and outs of the freight section.

Education: Attended Palo Alto Community College, San Antonio;

and Southwest Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas; majored in business administration.

Hobbies: "I like to cross-stitch, read and dance. I especially like to sew for my granddaughter."

Community organizations: "I am very active in my church, where I am the administrative board chair. I volunteer at the Steeple People Store and also at the Aliveness Project."

Goals: "I want to be a transportation officer, preferably somewhere in the South."

Comments: "I am very proud to be the recipient of such prestigious awards. I have to thank **Roger Hanson** [transportation officer] for nominating me, but especially I thank God for giving me the opportunity to serve my country in a small way." □



Medina

Cherie Huntington

Coronet Oak

Reserve forces mission relocates to Puerto Rico

Cherie Huntington
Public Affairs

The 934th Airlift Wing joined forces with two other Air Force Reserve Command units to accept the wing's third tasking this fiscal year for Coronet Oak, the 22-year airlift operation in Central and South America.

The wing will supply a total of approximately 75 people and four aircraft for two rotations to Puerto Rico, early June through early July. A previous tasking for Operation Joint Forge in Germany, July through August, was cancelled.

Maj. Steve Chapman, 96th Airlift Squadron operations officer, said the short-notice tasking frees C-130H aircraft to handle needs in

Europe arising from the Kosovo crisis.

"We're unsure of the scope of the mission right now," Chapman said. "We expect to be doing things we've done in the past, such as embassy support, aeromedical evacuation and training."

Coronet Oak's base of operations moved recently from Panama to Puerto Rico. The Panama Canal Treaty, signed when the operation started in 1977, mandated the return of Howard Air Force Base to Panama this month.

The 934th supported rotations last November and December, then again in February and March. The latest tasking was announced April 22 for the period of May 22 through early July. The 913th AW, Willow Grove, Pa., and the 403rd Wing,

Keesler Air Force Base, Miss., will round out the rotation period, for a total of around 19 crews and 14 aircraft altogether providing five, two-week rotations.

"It's a brand-new operating location with very little infrastructure to support ongoing operations like we're used to in Panama," said Chapman, "so the learning curve will be high."

Chapman said slots have been relatively easy to fill, however, especially considering the unplanned requirement.

"We appreciate everybody's help and support to make this work," he said. "Without everyone working together, this couldn't happen. All the support agencies have been great." □

Aerial port honor

Unit wins national award for reserve forces for 1998 performance

Tech. Sgt. Janet Byerly
Public Affairs

The 27th Aerial Port Squadron has been named the Air Reserve Component Military Unit of the Year 1998 by the National Defense Transportation Association.

Entering the annual competition for the first time, the 27th was named outstanding unit of the year at the reserve level in January. Their award package was evaluated at Air Force Reserve Command, where they competed against the best in the Guard and Reserve. The 27th garnered the top award for the reserve component in April.

The package detailed the activities of the unit during the past year, said **Senior Master Sgt. Mike Dressen**, air transportation supervisor.

"The activities for the past year centered around a number of humanitarian missions we did as part of

the Denton Amendment humanitarian airlift, as well as missions related to Hurricane Mitch," said Dressen.

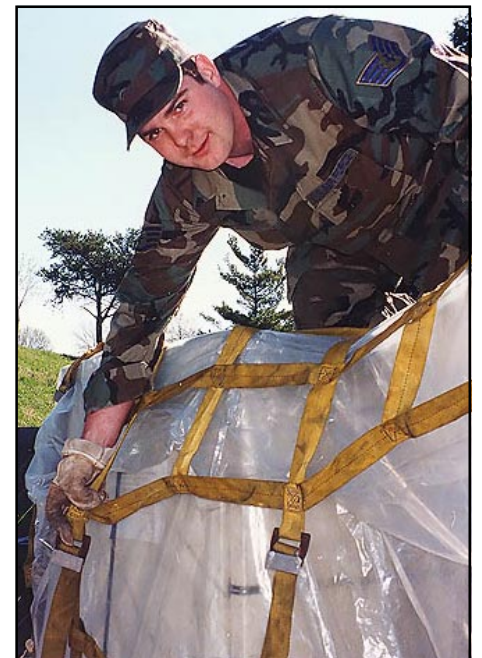
The Denton program allows the Department of Defense to provide space available transportation of humanitarian cargo provided the donor meets certain criteria.

The unit has welcomed the chance to prepare cargo to be sent all over the world as part of the humanitarian airlift, he said.

"It gives us an opportunity to train our people through hands-on experience," Dressen said. "I go out of my way to seek opportunities for humanitarian missions."

When the mission tasking comes in, Dressen knows the 27th will accept the challenge.

"We have a lot of people here with the right attitude," he said. "They want to help with any mission they task us with." (Editor's note: A special feature on the unit is in the works for a future issue.) □



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Staff Sgt. Allan Garnett, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, helped prepare pallets during the May drill.

Citizen-airman employment rights

Law protects reserve forces members called to active duty

Whether on active duty in the United States or deployed overseas to support operations in the Balkans, reservists have the law on their side that they will still have a job when they return home.

Their rights and the rights of their employers are spelled out in the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, a by-product of the Gulf War. After that conflict, Congress identified several shortcomings of the previous 58-year-old Veterans' Reemployment Rights Law.

Clearer wording and reduced red tape make it easier for reservists and their employers to communicate and resolve disputes. USERRA addresses a number of issues, ranging from notifying an employer of military duty to giving employees expanded reemployment rights.

Written notice required

Under the law, reservists, or an officer in their command, must give prior oral or written notice of their service obligation to an employer, regardless of the category of service. In rare cases, notice is not required. Exceptions include military necessity, such as classified recalls, or when it is determined that giving notice is "impossible or unreasonable."

USERRA expands the antidiscrimination protection for reservists in hiring, retention and advancement on the basis of their military obligation. Employers must make

Airline opts to continue benefits for recalled reserve forces members

American Airlines officials announced May 3 that family members of employees who have been called to active military duty to support NATO operations in Kosovo will continue to receive company benefits.

The majority of those employees are expected to be pilots and aircraft mechanics who are military reservists or members of the National Guard.

"These employees are serving our country, and American feels strongly that it should support them," said **Robert**

Baker, executive vice president for operations. "Ensuring that the families are protected while the soldiers are away is important."

The family of employees will retain all health insurance benefits and flight privileges. Normally, on a military leave of absence, company benefits continue for the first 30 days and then an employee may purchase coverage or revert to military coverage. (Courtesy of American Airlines)□

reasonable efforts to retrain or upgrade skills to qualify workers for reemployment.

The law expands health care and employee benefit pension plan coverage. It also improves protection for disabled veterans and strengthens enforcement mechanisms for service members who believe their reemployment rights have been violated.

Web site provides legal specifics

These and other provisions of the law, plus many information papers on employer support, are available for viewing on the Web site for the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve:

<http://www.esgr.org>

Reservists and employers can also get help by calling NCESGR toll free, (800) 336-4590.

Local assistance available

For assistance or information in Minnesota, reserve forces members may call **Maj. Gary Olson**, executive director of the Minnesota ESGR, (800) 657-3848.

"Our commitment from the ESGR committee is to assist whenever and wherever we are needed," said Olson.

Wing members with employer problems or questions are asked to first contact their squadron commander or first sergeant. (Air Force Reserve Command News Service)□

Mobilization benefits

Presidential recall expands entitlements

Though no 934th Airlift Wing members have been mobilized for the Kosovo crisis, reservists called up receive most of the benefits of active-duty service, including:

- \$150 monthly imminent danger pay month for service in the Balkans,
- Advanced military and travel pay in an

emergency, and

- Family medical care under various TRICARE health plans.

For more information on pay and allowances, see "Operation Allied Force Personnel Guidance and Family Support" at the Air Force Reserve Command Web site:

<http://www.afrc.af.mil/>
(AFRC News Service)□

Thanks, boss

Employer's Day brings civilian supervisors new understanding of Reserve mission



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Capt. Robert Clark
Public Affairs

As the back door of the C-130 lowered, **Staff Sgt. Jill Shephard**, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, walked out on the ramp overlooking Lake Superior from 10,000 feet.

Her employer, **Thomas Bey** of Bank of America, Bloomington, Minn., saw a side of Shephard he had never seen before.

"It's been great to learn more about what Jill does on her Reserve time," said Bey. "I have a better appreciation of her Reserve duty, and I see the need for more interaction between business and the Reserve."

More than 30 employers of 934th members visited the base on the May unit training assembly for the wing's annual Employer's Day. The event is designed to educate area employers on the role and mission of the 934th and the Air Force Reserve. In addition, the employers get a close-up view of what their employees do while on Reserve duty.

"Employer's Day allows the wing to not only provide

◀ **Tech. Sgt. Eric DeCamp** (left), 96th Airlift Squadron, invited his civilian employer to Employer's Day activities. As DeCamp served as the loadmaster on the orientation flight, **Henri Valiukas** (right), owner of **Rivers Restaurant in Hastings, Minn.**, saw him in action.

information on what the Reserve is doing but to hear from employers on issues and questions they have concerning the interaction between the Reserve and their business," said **Mark Davidson**, wing chief of public affairs. "With the operations tempo only increasing, it's vital that reservists keep their bosses informed of their duty requirements."

The day-long event included a wing mission briefing from **Col. Richard Moss**, wing commander; a briefing from the Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve; a flight in a C-130; firearms training and tours of their employees' work areas.

John Swanson, president of Swanson Consulting, St. Paul, Minn., hired his first reservist, **Master Sgt. Don Johnson**, 27th Aerial Port Squadron, one year ago.

"I had no idea what the reserves did," said Swanson. "I was not familiar with their role or that there is an organization such as the ESGR to work with to ask questions. It's nice to know that I have an avenue to get answers and better understand how I can support my reservist."

The day's events also cleared up misconceptions some employers had about Air Force Reserve duty.

"I have always heard references about this just being a 'weekend warrior' program," said Bey after simulating a night, desert invasion at the firearms training facility. "This actually takes a lot of training and is hard work!" □

Employers earn state awards for support

The Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve recently awarded State Chair Awards to employers of five 934th Airlift Wing members. The awards are given to nominated employers who provide exceptional policies and support for their reserve forces employees.

The winning employers and their reservists were:

- **Bonnie Brueshoff**, Dakota County Public Health Department, nominated by **Capt. Patricia Rautiola**, 934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron.

- **Dean Duffy**, 3M Corporation, nominated by **Staff Sgt. Terry Otis**, 934th Maintenance Squadron.

- **Wendy Dufresne Vimig**, U.S. Postal Service, nominated by **Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson**, 27th Aerial Port Squadron.

- **Tom Peterson**, Department 56, Inc., nominated by **Master Sgt. James Courneya**, 96th Airlift Squadron.

- **Steven Korteum**, Minnesota Department of Transportation, nominated by **Master Sgt. Steve Nicolai**, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron. □

Wing roundup

27th Aerial Port Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Mark Pierson
Four members deployed April 29 for Germany, supporting the crisis action team for Operation Shining



Wing around the world:

June

27th APS: Delaware, Germany
934th AES: California, Illinois, Japan, Saudi Arabia
934th ASTS: Texas.
96th AS: California, Delaware, Illinois, Missouri, New York, Puerto Rico
934th AW HQ/MSF: No report
934th CES: England
934th CF: Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Pennsylvania
934th LSS: Puerto Rico
934th MXS: Nebraska, Portugal, Puerto Rico
934th OSF: No travel
934th SFS: Kuwait
934th SVS: England, Germany
This list shows official travel destinations for wing members, via commercial or military transportation. For space-available travel information, call the 96th Airlift Squadron, Ext. 1741, or the local Air National Guard wing, Ext. 2450. □

Hope in Kosovo. Unit members are participating in off-drill exercises, focusing on real-work taskings and related job functions.

934th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron
Staff Sgt. Shana Strozewski
The squadron implemented a new tracking system for medical equipment.

Twenty-four members headed to Yokota Air Base, Japan, for their annual tour.

934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron

Staff Sgt. Michael Sanford
Unit members were busy organizing the newly-remodeled building. Also, many members participated in the mobility exercise and completed sustainment training, including chemical warfare training, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, weapons training and the three-mile walk.

96th Airlift Squadron
Airman 1st Class Jess Lind
An aircrew supported the C-130 flight for Employer's Day, May 1. The unit raised \$220 dollars for family readiness as a thanks for helping squadron members.

934th Civil Engineer Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Randy Matthews
Squadron members received kudos from a personnel deployment function observer during May's mobility exercise. CES was said to have one of the best-prepared units on base during the processing phase, with very few members needing updates or shots. Site engineers traveled to Camp Ripley, Minn., to survey and stake out the runway extension project. The disaster preparedness



Staff Sgt. Kenneth Boelter

Whew!

Firefighters with the 934th Civil Engineer Squadron take a break during their annual "live training," held April 18 at the St. Paul Fire Training Center, St. Paul, Minn.

shop started working on a newly-revised contamination control assembly line and also revived the squadron newsletter, *Bullsheet*, now in its second month of publication.

934th Communications Flight

Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz
The wing mobility exercise went well. All members pitched in for a team effort, and standouts were **Tech. Sgt. Josef Kniesz** and **Senior Airman Blake Robertson**.

934th Logistics Support Squadron
Senior Airman Martina Delp
The unit will be preparing for deployments supporting Coronet Oak in Puerto Rico.

934th Maintenance Squadron
Tech. Sgt. Steven Lerbakken
Weapons and munitions, along with 140 people, cargo and support equipment were processed through the mobility line during the May unit training assembly. On Sunday, we launched an aircraft and four squadron members to North Island Naval Air Station, Calif., to assist the Navy

Seals. Also, many members completed their annual three-mile walk.

934th Operations Support Flight

Master Sgt. Cara Utecht
Base operations will be helping deploy crews to Puerto Rico. Current operations and tactics are working on a combination training and implementation plan for the October readiness exercise.

934th Security Forces Squadron
Staff Sgt.

Niklas Hammarberg
In May, unit members completed their equipment inventory, participated in the base mobility exercise, built up mobility bags and pallets, and cleaned weapons.

934th Services Squadron

Tech. Sgt. Pamela Peck
Lodging is now a nonsmoking facility, effective June 1. Services members will be doing their annual three-mile power walk on the June drill.

Wing Headquarters/ 934th Mission Support Flight

Staff Sgt. Linda Jimenez
No report. □

TopSTAR

Hands-on training puts medical members in 'starring' roles

Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams

Public Affairs

Chest tubes. Intravenous solutions. Immunizations. Triage. These are the things needed for a well-trained medical unit to survive and operate in the field of war. For 12 members of the 934th Aeromedical Staging Squadron, a two week training session in April at Wilford Hall Medical Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, brought these out of textbooks and field manuals into reality.

TopSTAR, which stands for Top of the Line Sustainment Training to Advance Readiness, is a program for nurses and medical technicians. Using medical simulation labs, lectures, distance learning and direct patient experience, TopSTAR provides an integrated force qualified to support medical wartime tasking.

"It gave me more confidence," said **Master Sgt. John Wulfing**, ASTS ancillary training noncommissioned officer in charge. "I got to deal with real patients. You can teach in the classroom on how to set up i.v.s [intravenous drips] all day long, but you will never learn enough until you actually do it. I was able to get the training here that I wouldn't get in Minneapolis, or at my civilian job."

In his civilian job, Wulfing works in the pediatric intensive care unit at Gillette Children's Specialty Health Care, St. Paul, Minn.

"I handled postoperative coronary bypass patients," he continued, "and assisted with i.v.s, chest tube maintenance, cardiac enzymes that needed to be taken every four hours,

EKGs [electrocardiograms] and oxygen. It was very rewarding!"

The students learn and practice their wartime skill requirements on mannequins and training devices while going through short lectures during the first week. Students are then paired with their active-duty counterparts during the second week and perform hands-on training in both inpatient and outpatient settings.

"With this type of training, some of our people were able to get 80 percent of their recertification requirements complete," said **Maj. Judy Marchetti**, ASTS unit training chief, "especially the hands-on, live-patient practice that we don't always get at home station."

The students were trained in eight different medical skills, which consisted of fundamental skills, including vital signs and triage; cardiac skills; intravenous administration; pulmonary procedures; wound care; trauma and special procedures.

While there is no official rated evaluation, Marchetti said the "post-critique was positive." She added, "The experience level was better than I anticipated, especially since it keeps us current in real-world medical skills." Air reserve components participate in the program every four years to ensure fulfillment of requirements for medical readiness.

Currently, the TopSTAR program is held exclusively at Lackland, but plans are underway add new sites soon at Andrews AFB, Md., and also at Travis AFB, Calif., which will offer additional training modules in administration, logistics and other medical specialties. □

Mobility exercise

May practice runs smoothly, reveals typical 'rust'

No news is good news, or so the saying goes, and there wasn't much news in the May 1-2 mobility exercise — to the relief of planners.

"It was a typical exercise," said **Master Sgt. Anthony "Zack" Zacheretti**, wing logistics plans craftsman. "We saw problems we expected and a little rustiness here and there, but there were no show stoppers."

He said 422 people and 36 cargo increments were processed, all at home station with no flying. Exercise planners aimed to scrutinize two areas during the weekend.

First, a new computerized deployment information system called "Logmod," or Logistics Module, was used for the first time. Also, after numerous personnel changes, critical holes in staffing might surface. Both areas worked out fine with "normal glitches," said Zacheretti.

"We do this once or twice a year to see how well training is going," he said. "We want to see if people are taking what they've learned and applying it in the exercise."

The after-action report will be available on the shared G-drive by the June drill. □

Wing hosts clinic

The wing hosted Minnesota's largest child passenger safety clinic for the community on May 8 at the transportation complex.

Julie Prom, Minnesota Department of Public Safety, reported that more than 200 children were checked for proper child restraint use, including both safety seats and seat belts.

Certified specialists found that 87 percent of the child restraints were being used incorrectly, and 32 seats were replaced because of recalls, age of seats or involvement in a crash. (MDPS release) □

People

Promotions

Staff Sgt. Bryan Back, MXS
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Bethke, CES
Staff Sgt. David Cadry Jr., MXS
Staff Sgt. Deborah Edwall, ASTS
Staff Sgt. Joseph Gentile Jr., MXS
Staff Sgt. Tasnim Hassan, MXS
Tech. Sgt. Thomas Jorgensen, MXS
Master Sgt. Randall Lenton, AS
Senior Airman Charles Long, MXS
Senior Airman Russell Robertson, CF
Staff Sgt. Guillermo Simkins, MXS
Staff Sgt. Andrew Thomas, AS
Senior Airman Barry Torseth, CF
Master Sgt. Chris Vandenberg, OG
Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz, CF
Airman 1st Class Sara Webb, CF
Staff Sgt. Paul Wentler, CES
Staff Sgt. Jeffrey Williams, AW

Newcomers

• Capt. David Carpenter, CF, *Air Reserve Personnel Center*
• Capt. Zeus Celi, AS, *Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D.*
• Senior Airman Scott Inwards, CF, *prior service Marines*
• Capt. James Jirele, AS, *Little Rock AFB, Ark.*
• Senior Airman Thomas Keough Jr., APS, *prior service Navy*
• Airman 1st Class John Lacska, SVS, *non-prior service*
• Airman Basic Christopher LeBlanc, CF, *non-prior service*
• Senior Airman Jody Miller, SVS, *ARPC*
• Senior Airman Brent Moller, MXS, *ARPC*
• Airman 1st Class Timothy Paskett, APS, *Minnesota Air National Guard*
• Airman 1st Class Timothy Poirier, LSS, *Mountain Home AFB, Idaho*
• Staff Sgt. Mark Schrader, APS, *ARPC*
• Senior Airman Christopher Seever, SFS, *Malmstrom AFB, Mont.*

• Staff Sgt. Michael Severin, APS, *prior service Navy*
• Staff Sgt. Sarah Sturner, ASTS, *MNANG*
• Staff Sgt. Allison Walter, AS, *non-prior service/undergraduate pilot training selectee*
• Tech. Sgt. James Whittington, ASTS, *prior service Army Reserve*

• Newcomer **Christopher LeBlanc**, CF, was enlisted by his parents, **Maj. Cam LeBlanc**, LG, and **Maj. Pamela LeBlanc**, OG.

Re-enlistments

Staff Sgt. Michael Allen, CF
Staff Sgt. John Anderson, APS
Staff Sgt. Darrin Askevold, APS
Tech. Sgt. Robert Buie, OSF
Senior Airman Louis Dutra, LSS
Tech. Sgt. Michael Garney, APS
Staff Sgt. Clifford Hanson, MXS
Staff Sgt. Stephen Hawkins, CES
Master Sgt. Dale Ingersoll, MXS

Staff Sgt. Barton Inks, CES
Senior Airman Zachary Johnson, AES
Staff Sgt. Thomas Jorgensen, MXS
Master Sgt. Robert Keldsen, MSF
Tech. Sgt. Angela McCullagh, MXS
Master Sgt. Jerome Meyer, MXS
Tech. Sgt. Martin Miller, APS
Tech. Sgt. Morris Pochardt, CES
Staff Sgt. Daniel Roth, MXS
Master Sgt. Larry Schyma, AW
Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Sonsalla, CF
Staff Sgt. Joseph Wong, MXS

Achievements

• **Senior Airman Martina Delp**, LSS, was selected as the unit's outstanding service volunteer of the quarter.
• **Capt. Donald Kom**, CES, was selected to represent the wing at the International Junior Officers Leadership Development

(Continued on next page)

Viking Victors:

Capt. Maureen Banavige

New position: Commander, 934th Logistics Support Squadron.

Job responsibilities: Supply, transportation, maintenance operations.

Education: Bachelor's in applied mathematics, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass.; master's in business administration, Boston University.

Civilian occupation: Full-time mom.

Hobbies: Foreign travel, gardening, biking.

Professional organizations: Reserve Officers Association.

Goals: "Continue to help LSS improve the way we do business so we can better support our wing customers."

Comments: "I feel lucky to have the chance to lead such a great group of people." □



Banavige

Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Viking Search: Electrical systems

Clip this for a colleague or family member and assist recruiters in their search for new reservists.

Specialty code/unit: 3EOX1, 934th Civil Engineer Squadron.

Job description: Perform installation, maintenance and repair of high voltage distribution systems and facility electrical systems.

Civilian job equivalent: Electrician, starting salary around \$28 an hour.

Training: Seven months, Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas.

Recent travel

locations: Arizona, Florida, Germany.

What's great about the job:

- Technical training can help lead to civilian employment.
- Opportunities for additional travel/duty.
- Stable, predictable work load makes scheduling easy for full-time students or people with demanding civilian jobs.
- Unit offers good upward mobility to achieve more rank and responsibility.
- Opportunities to work with a lot of different people all over the base.
- Great unit camaraderie and family atmosphere.



Tech. Sgt. Robert Walz

Staff Sgt. Chris Rumreich,
electrical systems

- Opportunities to attend additional training/workshops/conferences.
- Contact:** 934th Recruiting Office, (612) 713-1456. □

Reservist enters 24-hour run

Lt. Col. Larry Snider, 96th Airlift Squadron, plans to run 100 miles at the 10th Annual Family Advocate Network System 24-Hour Run, 8 a.m. June 26 to 8 a.m. June 27.

Runners will run a 2.42-mile loop at Lake Nokomis, Minneapolis, to raise money for FANS, which helps inner city Minneapolis youth attend post secondary educational institutions. All pledges go to the FANS College Fund.

David Lilja's services division is supporting Snider with a tent, cot and sleeping bag. He invites anyone interested to providing race support, make pledges or just cheer him along.

☎For more information, call Snider, Ext. 1759. □

(Continued from previous page)

Conference in Stockholm, Sweden, in July.

• **Staff Sgt. Leo Moreno**, SFS, was selected as the unit's noncommissioned officer of the quarter.

• **Staff Sgt. Richard Rowcliffe**, APS, was selected as the "Porter of the Quarter" for January through March.

• **Staff Sgt. Timothy Soby**, APS, completed riggers school as a distinguished graduate.



Soby

• **Staff Sgt. Mike Thrasher**, AES, was selected as the "Member of the Month" in May.

• The following CES members were volunteer cooks for "Loyalty Days" at the Veterans Home, Minneapolis, May 1:
Master Sgt. Dave Angerman
Staff Sgt. Steven Hawkins
Master Sgt. Tom Overman
Master Sgt. Bob Swartout
Senior Airman Paul Tomkins

• Wing members participated in the April 22 "Bring Your Daughter to Work Day" with Wenonah School, Minneapolis.

Master Sgt. Betsy Johnston, LSS, the wing's special emphasis program manager, coordinated the event. Johnston and the following members hosted students for the day:
Senior Master Sgt. Sharon Blalock, AES
LaVern Callum, CEA
Ann Cordes, CPO
Karen Hoppe, LGS
Tech. Sgt. Bernardette Lunde, MSF
Tech. Sgt. Lynn McGourty, AS
Judy Molm, LGS
Pat Morris, LGC
Cynthia Murry, LGC
Karen Renlund, LGS
Master Sgt. Patty Sahr, APS

Marriages

• **Wayne Stierlen**, CES, and **Judy Berg** were married March 31.

Births

• **David Hardy**, SFS, and his wife, **Kelli**, have a new son, **David Charles**, born on Mother's Day, May 9, weighing 5 pounds, 6 3/4 ounces.

• **Scott Wilson**, MXS, and his wife, **Cara**, have a new son, **Steven Andrew**, born May 3, weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces.

Retirements

• Tech. Sgt. Jeffery Anderson, APS, 20 years
• Tech. Sgt. Donald Gustafson, APS, 20 years
• Tech. Sgt. John Watts, AS, 21 years □

Services Briefs

NCO Club

• **Two-for-one dinner** specials will be on Tuesday, June 8, filet mignon; and Tuesday, June 22, fried catfish.

• **Father's Day barbecue** will be Sunday, June 20, for all NCO and Officers Club members. Call by June 15 for reservations.

• **Build your own potato** for lunch, Tuesday, June 22, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

• **Breakfast at the club** is featured each weekday, 7-9:30 a.m. Call to book a breakfast meeting.

☎Call Ext. 1655 for details on NCO Club activities.

Officers Club

• **The third annual golf tournament** is set for Tuesday, June 15, at River Oaks Golf Course. Participants will meet at the club at 10:30 a.m. for coffee. The cost is \$58 per person, including golf, cart, dinner at the club and prizes. Register by June 10 by calling Ext. 3676.

☎For dinner reservations at the club or information on other activities, call Ext. 3678.

Fitness center

• **The Gopher Walking Club** offers walk times at 11 a.m., noon, 4:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Sign up at the fitness center before each walk.

• **The next golf event** is set for Saturday, Aug. 7. Call the fitness center for more information.

• **Discount tickets** for many area and U.S. entertainment centers and major theme parks are available at the fitness center. Local tickets include Valleyfair, the Renaissance Festival, the Minnesota Zoo and the Chanhassen Dinner Theater.

• **Summer rental equipment** available includes boats, camping gear and sporting goods.

☎Call for information or a schedule of court times available, Ext. 1GYM. □

Fitness in style

New facility boosts interest in working out on base

Cherie Huntington

Public Affairs

The lure of the new \$1.6 million fitness center here has enticed more people than ever before to work out on base.

In fact, statistics gathered by fitness center staffers revealed the number of patrons has risen from a mere 80 a week in the old facility to more than 700 weekly now.

"It's a better facility with more availability," said **Dave Theisen**, recreation assistant. "Of course, a lot of people started out in curiosity. We'll take another look at things in around six months."

Theisen said he has noted an increase in the number of retirees using the facility, as well as more family members.

There has also been more of a mix of service members.

"The stationary bikes, elliptical trainer and treadmills stay pretty busy," he said. "And people seem to prefer racquetball over basketball and volleyball."

He said all the equipment and courts are being used, but the racquetball court is always full. "If we had three courts, we could keep them full," he said.

Staffers reported lunch time as the busiest period of the day, dropping off around 12:30 p.m. Then at 4:30 p.m., business picks up again until around 6 p.m. Weekday hours are 5 a.m.-10 p.m.; weekends, 7 a.m.-6 p.m.; and 934th drill weekends, 6 a.m.-6 p.m.

Not content with the facility's success, however, the recreation services staff welcomes suggestions and is considering a number of new programs, said **Bill Garside**, recreation assistant.

"We're looking into providing stress management classes, aerobic exercise tapes and a 'healthy lunch' delivery service for fitness center patrons," he said. Also, the recent addition of a juice and mineral water concession proved popular immediately.

"We want to get the force in here to look us over," said Theisen. "We're here to help and show you how to use all this equipment."

☎For more information or to reserve a court, call 1-GYM, or Ext. 1496. □

The first meeting of Omega World Travel's travel club, "Relive the Adventure," will meet Saturday, June 5, at 7 p.m. at the travel office, Bldg. 752.

Janet Byerly, wing public affairs, and her husband, **John**, will talk about bicycle touring in France and World War II landing beaches of Normandy.

The club will offer opportunities to

New travel club plans June event

share travel experiences, of either leisure or official nature. During suitable weather, meetings will be held at the west end ball field bleachers. Alternate locations will be

the travel office and the chapel.

The tentative program for Saturday, July 10, will be on travel to Iceland.

☎For suggestions or to volunteer as a presenter at a future meeting, call **Sharon Schwegel**, manager of Omega World travel, Ext. 1188, or e-mail her at:

sschwegel@owt.net □